

WOOD COUNTY ROOTS



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Chairman's Corner 1466

Dues Reminder 1467
Officers

I Found My Great 1467
Great Grandfather
Online Now What?
Lorine McGinnis 1468
Schulze

Yes Virginia, there is 1469
a Santa Claus

Passing Members 1470

Using Persi 1471
Membership list
and form

Calendar of Events 1472

Society Information 1473

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Greetings Everyone!

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas! Face it, you sang those words, didn't you?

Everyone comments how late Thanksgiving was so that it made Christmas just that much sooner. I'm thinking that is why I am feeling so late with everything already. I usually have my candles in the windows on Dec 1, and that did not happen this year because I had to wait for the batteries to get delivered. At least they will be up for quite a while since I usually leave them until the batteries start dying out.

Of course, it's that time of year when people start thinking of making New Year's resolutions. I quit making them years ago so I feel good when I do get things done but not so bad when I don't get them done. Does that make sense? Anyway, it's all about getting organized and staying that way. More than half the battle is keeping on top of your genealogy research. Use the lists in your genealogy programs that will help you remember what you were going to do the next time you were on line, at the library, or at the courthouse. When you have a few minutes at the end of the day, use it to look up that item you were going to check online. I usually pick up a book that I was reading, but this year, I think I will try to do more genealogy

in those few minutes. You'll be surprised how those few minutes add up.

Our Society is turning 50 years old this year. We are planning a small celebration this coming May. We are looking into a Saturday lunch at Lake Aire with hopefully a speaker. I am still looking for suggestions on a speaker; looking for one we haven't had in a while or a new speaker. If you have any suggestions, please email me. Thanks.

Just to give all of you a heads up—this is my last year of being an officer. I have been a member since early 1987. I was elected Chair of the Society for the 1987-1988 year—yes, you read that right—the very first year I was a member! Totaling it all up, for the 37 years I've been a member, I was Chair, Secretary, Historian, Trustee, Newsletter Editor, plus I've served on various committees as chair through the years.

It's time for me to step down. Please give some thought to serving as an officer when the Nominating Committee comes calling.

Thank you.
Happy Hunting!

Bev Peaslee, Chair



OFFICERS

Officers were voted in at the end of last year to take us on into the new year. Please help the officers out in any way that you can. Our society is only as strong as its members.

Chairman:
Bev Peaslee

Vice Chairman:
Christine Armstrong

Secretary:

Myra Sweet

Treasurer:
Tina Krummel

Trustee:
Mary Moss

Dues!

It's that time of year again—your annual dues are payable now. Our membership year runs from **August 1 through July 31.**

Check your newsletter label. The line above your name has the expiration date of your membership. There is a membership form on page 1473 of this newsletter. Please check with Tina, our treasurer, on the status of your membership.

I Found My Great Great Grandfather Online - Now What!?!??? (Verifying Records Found On Webpages) © Lorine McGinnis Schulze

You just found a church record for the marriage of your great great grandfather, or the record of your 4th great grandparents on a passenger list of a ship to the New World in 1777 - wow! But you have questions - how accurate is this information? How can you verify it?

All records have the potential for error once they have been transcribed. This results in the possibility of culmination of errors with each succeeding transcription. Deliberate altering of the records (such as adding details the transcriber believes are correct; changing the spelling of names etc) results in even more possibility of corruption.

Generations (Versions) of a Record

Each generation or version that a record goes through increases its chance of errors. Researchers should always try to use records as close to the original as possible. Let's go through an actual example:

Many of the records and databases on Olive Tree Genealogy <http://olivetreegenealogy.com/index.shtml> are transcribed from microfilm of the original. They can be considered a second generation level

transcription. This means they have one chance of human error (assuming the original minister made no mistakes). If the original minister or clerk made errors then they have two changes of human error. These records may be considered as good as book published records in most cases.

Records transcribed for Olive Tree Genealogy from published versions (such as the Marriage Records of the Reformed Dutch Church in New Amsterdam/New York found at <http://olivetreegenealogy.com/nn/church.shtml> and used with permission of the NYGBR who published them in series), are third generation -- having been transcribed from the original to the NYGBR to Olive Tree. Records at 3rd generation level stand a greater chance of error. How useful they are depends on how reliable and accurate the working publication (in this case the NYGBR) is. In this case the NYGBR is considered a scholarly journal, is well regarded, and can be trusted.

The following example is based on an interpretation and explanation of the number of generations an early New York will can go through before it ends up on a webpage or mailing list on the Internet. (originally sent to the Dutch-Colonies mailing list

I Found My Great Great Grandfather Online -- Now What!???

(Verifying Records Found On Webpages)

© Lorine McGinnis Schulze

on 10 June 2001)

An Example of Generations in Wills and Abstracts

1. Generation 1 (original) The original will. Many have been microfilmed by the LDS church
2. Generation 2 (2nd version/transcription) At the time of probate the will was copied into the book (or "liber") of wills. Microfilm of most of the early libers is available.
3. Generation 3 (3rd version/transcription) In the 19th Century a copy of the original libers was made. Microfilm of these is available from the LDS church.
4. Generation 4 (4th version/transcription) Abstracts were done and published as part of the Collections of the New York Historical Society. These are also available on CD-ROM
5. Generation 5 (5th version/transcription) Those abstracts were either scanned or retyped and made available as on-line databases on webpages.
6. Generation 6 (6th version/transcription) The Generation 5 on-line abstracts were posted on an e-mail list.

You can see how many times errors can be introduced or parts of the records lost along the way. This holds true for all online records.

So what can you, the researcher, do?

1. Use original sources wherever possible.
2. If you can't use the original source be sure to carefully notate where you found the information. Hopefully you will one day be able to consult the original to verify the transcript.
3. Scrutinize your source - is it reliable? Has it been altered? Was it taken from

an original, or was it taken from a source further removed from the original?

4. Research your sources! Find out if there are better published records that are known to have fewer errors. Talk to those knowledgeable in the field, write emails and ask questions.
5. Don't accept everything you see in print. Be a savvy researcher and protect yourself from errors in your family tree.

The question you should ask yourself every time you access a webpage with information is:

HOW MANY GENERATIONS AWAY IS THIS INFORMATION FROM THE ORIGINAL SOURCE?

The further removed it is, the more chance of error.

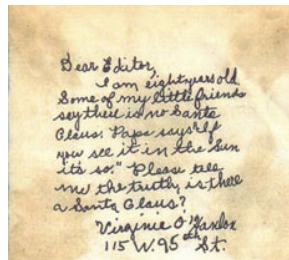
This article was written by Lorine McGinnis Schulze of The Olive Tree Genealogy Permission to copy is granted as long as the article remains **AS IS**. No changes may be made to the article and all identifying information and website link must remain intact! This Permission to Copy notice must remain with the article



Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus

In 1897, Dr. Philip O'Hanlon, a coroner's assistant on Manhattan's Upper West Side, was asked a question by his then eight-year-old daughter, Virginia, which many a parent has been asked before: whether Santa Claus really exists. O'Hanlon deferred. He suggested Virginia write asking the question to one of New York's most prominent newspapers at the time, *The Sun*, assuring her that "If you see it in The Sun, it's so."

Dear Editor: I am 8 years old.
Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, 'If you see it in The Sun it's so.'
Please tell me the truth; is there a Santa Claus?



The response to Virginia's letter by one of the paper's editors, Francis Pharcellus Church, remains the most reprinted editorial ever to run in any newspaper in the English language and found itself the subject of books, a film and television series. In his response Church goes beyond a simple "yes of course" to explore the philosophical issues behind Virginia's request to tell her "the truth" and in the process lampoon a certain skepticism which he had found rife in American society since the suffering of the Civil War. His message in short - there is a reality beyond the visible.

VIRGINIA, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not

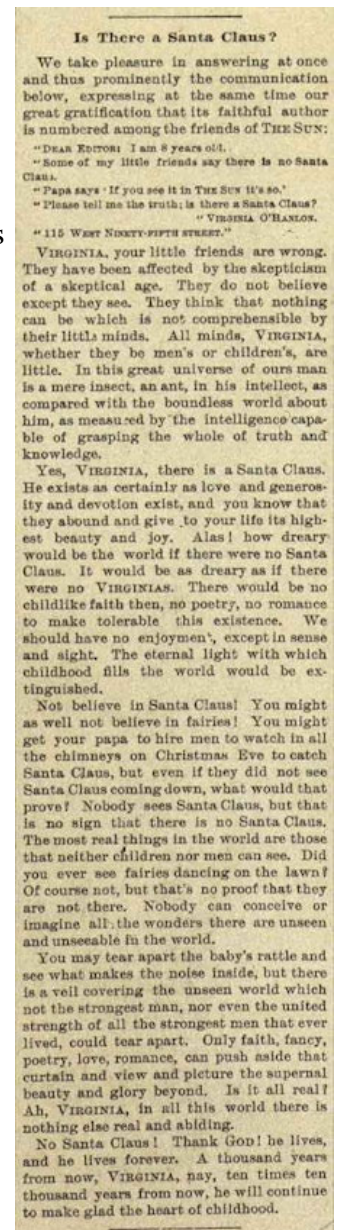
see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real?

Ah, VIRGINIA, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

Merry Christmas



Passing of Members



LuAnne L. McChesney, age 80, of Port Edwards, passed away on Friday, October 18, 2024, at Aspirus Riverview Hospital.

LuAnne was born on July 6, 1944, in

Wausau, WI to Carl and Rosella (Strebe) Werner.

She graduated from Rib Lake High School and then earned an associate's degree in Supervisor Management from Mid-State Technical College.

LuAnne worked at various places throughout her life, including Associated Bank, Schreiber Foods, and working as a crossing guard at Port Edwards schools.

LuAnne was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church. She enjoyed embroidering, word-finding games, reading, photography, and driving in the country. She also loved genealogy, Elvis, teddy bears, and the color purple. Above all, LuAnne cherished her time spent with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

LuAnne is survived by her sons, Ken McChesney and Cameron (Patti) McChesney; grandchildren, Brenda, Brent, and Madeline McChesney, Kevin Ystad, and Ashley (Steve) Christensen; great-grandchildren, Reggie, Frances, and Roxanne Christensen; sister, Darla Shaddock; and sister-in-law, Karen Werner. She is preceded in death by her parents, Rosella and Carl Werner; father, Joseph Shaddock; daughter-in-law, Michele McChesney; and brothers, Bernie and Fred Werner.



Lorraine Weaver, age 104, passed away on Monday, October 7, 2024. Lorraine was born on August 8, 1920 in Biron, Wisconsin to Emerald and Mary (Gee) Lyons. She married her childhood sweetheart, Woodrow Weaver, on May 15, 1944 Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin. They were on their honeymoon for 64 years when Woodrow passed in 2008.

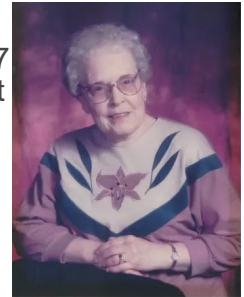
She attended Biron State Graded School and Lincoln High School where she was an honor student. Music was a major part of her life. She played clarinet in both band and orchestra and was presented with the School Music Award at her graduation in 1938. She also played with the Wisconsin Rapids City band for several years.

Lorraine attended Wood County Normal school and Wisconsin State Teachers College where she graduated with a Bachelor of Education in 1953 and obtained her kindergarten license in 1954. She taught for over 28 years in the Wisconsin Rapids School system with 26 of those being first grade at Howe School until her retirement in 1975.

She and Woodrow were very active in the Heart of Wisconsin Gem and Mineral Society for many years. They were inveterate "rockhounds" and went on many trips to the Southwest as well as Alaska and the Yukon. She also was equally active as a member and officer of the Heart of Wisconsin Genealogical Society. She went on many trips to garner information and documentation of both the Lyons and the Gee branches of the family trees. She was a member of the Catholic Daughters of America, Catholic Women's PCCW St Joan Unit No. 1 in Biron and was a long-standing member of the Local, State and National Teachers Association.

Her hobbies included genealogy, reading, sewing, crocheting, Tiffany Glass making and jewelry making. She also enjoyed fishing and loving her dogs.

Lorraine was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Woodrow; brothers, Emerald Jr., George, and Richard; and sisters, Irene and Marjorie. She is survived by her brother, Theodore (Maggie); as well as numerous nieces and nephews.



Using PERSI

© Lorine McGinnis Schulze <http://www.olivetreegenealogy.com/>

PERSI (PERiodical Source Index) is a wonderful tool. Here is how to use it effectively: First, find what articles are published on the surname you are seeking. Many large libraries have the index, but if yours doesn't, you can purchase the CD ROM version, or consult the online PERSI Index at [Ancestry](http://www.ancestry.com)

I used Ancestry.com's online subscription database and typed in BOELEN in NEW YORK. I got 3 'hits' on the PERSI index. There is also a PERSI CD you can use, or your local library may have a copy.

Copy the information -- either by printing the page or writing it out, EXACTLY as you see it.

For BOELEN in New York one of the hits I got was for "*Boelen Arms*" in the NYGBR (New York Genealogical & Biographical Record) Vol. 67, Issue 4, Oct. 1926. I will need all that information to order the article.

Now I go to the online PERSI order form at http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/database/graphics/order_form.html Print this page.

Fill it out with as many as **SIX** articles of your choice (I had 3 hits on Boelen so could fill it out

for all 3) Be sure to put all the info required (which you carefully printed or copied from wherever you searched) Based on my one hit listed above, I have to fill out the form as follows:

- Title of article = Boelen Arms
- Title of Journal = New York Genealogical & Biographical Record
- Vol. = 67
- No. = 4
- Mon. = Oct
- Yr. = 1936

Put your name and address on the form where indicated, include your \$7.50 and send the form and cheque off to the address given. When the Allen County Public Library Foundation has photocopied all the pages, they will bill you for them at 20 cents per page.

It's one of the best deals around :-)

This guide was written by Lorine McGinnis Schulze of The Olive Tree Genealogy at <http://www.olivetreegenealogy.com/> and may be copied **AS IS**. Identifying information and website link must remain intact!

MEMBERSHIP FORM

**DETACH AND MAIL WITH A CHECK FOR \$20 (FOR ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER)
\$28 (FOR MAILED NEWSLETTER)**

PAYABLE TO:

**HEART O' WISCONSIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 1565 WISCONSIN RAPIDS, WI 54495-1565**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: (____) _____ The membership list is published once per year in the December newsletter. We ask that you give permission for us to publish your address, telephone number, and e-mail address by responding to the following questions. **(Please clearly circle your answer; if no response is given, we will automatically publish):** I wish to have the following published in the December newsletter: my address? **Yes No**; my phone number? **Yes No**; my e-mail address? **Yes No**; If you wish a printed copy your dues will be \$28 to cover the cost of the printing of the newsletter.

To receive the quarterly newsletter we need your E-mail: _____

Members may submit one free query per year, which will be published in the Society's newsletter in order to contact others researching the same ancestors. It should be 50 words or less, not counting the name and address of the submitter. Members and non-members may submit additional queries at the rate of 10 cents per word.

Please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you want a membership card mailed to you. Thanks.

New members only: You may have **one** free surname search if you reside outside of Wood County, WI (a \$10 value).

Surname you would like researched: _____

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec 21st, 2024 **Christmas Social** with an added twist. Participants are asked to bring 1 dozen treats to share with others. To help members start their own "Treasures" book, participants are asked to bring 3 or 4 photographs of some of their "treasures."

Jan 2025 **No Meeting**

Feb 2025 **TBA**

Watch for an email about this meeting

Starting August of 2024, the newsletter will have some changes. We have raised our dues to \$20, with a digital Newsletter. If you wish a mailed copy of the newsletter it would be an additional \$8.00 per year. We will need to have your email address so we can send the newsletter directly to you.

***The third Saturday of the month from August through June (skipping January).
At 9:30 a.m. At McMillan Memorial Library***

We are in need of encouraging new members and activity from members who are in the Wisconsin Rapids Area.

We would like your input. You can email, or mail our President.

Email: info@howgs.org

***U.S Mail : Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society
 P.O. Box 1565
 Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin 54495-1565***

Look for us on Facebook.com

Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society.

It is a now an open group so please check it out.

Heart O' Wisconsin Genealogical Society

Chairman	Bev Peaslee
Vice Chairman	Christine Armstrong
Secretary	Myra Sweet
Treasurer	Tina Krummel
Trustees	3 years Mary Moss
	2 years Betty Pearson
	1 year Kathy Bruner

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Book Purchases	Flores Gumz
Hospitality	Joyce Keehn
Indexing	Myra Sweet
Library Files	Arlene Keehn
New Members	Joyce Keehn
Newsletter	Tina Krummel
Sunshine	Sue Miller
Website	Di Neinfeldt
Tech Data Admin	Ben Chitek

Wood County Roots Editor:

Tina Krummel
2520 Ranger Rd
Wisc Rapids, WI 54494
Phone: 715-325-5840
E-mail: krummtin@gmail.com

HEART O' WISCONSIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

PURPOSE OF SOCIETY: To assist members and others in genealogical research and to preserve local records.

DUES: \$20 per household—one digital newsletter per address. Please list names of all persons joining. Due at or before 31 July. **Membership year runs from 01 August through 31 July.** If you wish a Mailed copy of the Newsletter it would be \$8 more per year.

MEETINGS: Held monthly—August through June—on the Third Saturday of the month at 9:30 a.m. at the McMillan Memorial Library, 490 East Grand Avenue, Wisconsin Rapids, WI (right across the street from the Hotel Mead & Convention Center).

Wood County Roots Editor:

Tina Krummel Phone: 715-325-5840 E-mail: krummtin@gmail.com

Visit us on the web at www.howgs.org!!!